

## LISTING OF CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions of the claims.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:  
 obtaining a request to provide a service, wherein  
     the request conforms to a request format defined in a first language, and  
     at least one device of a plurality of devices **is configured to provide** ~~provides~~ the  
         service;  
 identifying one device of the at least one device to provide the service; and  
 converting the request to a second request ~~in a second language~~, wherein  
     **the second request conforms to a second language, and**  
     **the one device is configured to provide the service in response to receiving the**  
         **second request.**  
~~the second language is used for communication with the one device.~~
  
2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
 directing the second request to the one device.
  
3. **(Original)** The method of claim 2 wherein  
 the first language is a markup language;  
 the second language is a device-specific language of a plurality of device-specific languages,  
 wherein  
     each of the plurality of devices communicates using one of the plurality of device-  
         specific languages.
  
4. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 2 wherein  
 the request format comprises  
     at least one instruction, and  
     data to be used when performing the at least one instruction; ~~and~~  
     ~~the second request conforms to the request format~~
  
5. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 4 wherein  
 the request specifies use of a specific feature of a specific device of the plurality of devices by

specifying an optional variable , and  
providing a value for the optional variable;

and

the converting the request to the second request ~~in the second language~~ comprises  
including the optional variable in the at least one instruction of the second request, and  
including the value for the optional variable in the data of the second request, wherein the  
optional variable and the value specify use of the specific feature.

6. **(Original)** The method of claim 2 further comprising:  
sending a response to the request.

7. **(Original)** The method of claim 6 wherein  
the response conforms to a response format defined in the first language.

8. **(Original)** The method of claim 7 wherein  
the response format comprises  
at least one instruction; and  
data to be used when performing the at least one instruction.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A system comprising:  
obtaining means for obtaining a request to provide a service, wherein  
the request conforms to a request format defined in a first language, and  
at least one device of a plurality of devices is configured to provide ~~provides~~ the  
service;  
identifying means for identifying one device of the at least one device to provide the service; and  
converting means for converting the request to a second request ~~in a second language~~, wherein  
the second request conforms to a second language, and  
the one device is configured to provide the service in response to receiving the  
second request.  
~~the second language is used for communication with the one device.~~

10. **(Original)** The system of claim 9 further comprising:  
directing means for directing the second request to the one device.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 10 wherein the request format comprises  
at least one instruction, and  
data to be used when performing the at least one instruction, ~~and~~  
~~the second request conforms to the request format.~~

12. **(Original)** The system of claim 11 further comprising:  
first including means for including an optional variable in the at least one instruction of the  
second request, and  
second including means for including a value of the optional variable in the data of the second  
request, wherein  
the optional variable and the value specify use of a specific feature of a specific device of  
the plurality of devices.

13. **(Original)** The system of claim 10 further comprising:  
sending means for sending a response to the request.

14. **(Original)** The system of claim 13 wherein  
the response conforms to a response format defined in the first language.

15. **(Original)** The system of claim 14 wherein  
the response format comprises  
at least one instruction; and  
data to be used when performing the at least one instruction.

16. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-readable medium comprising:  
obtaining instructions to obtain a request to provide a service, wherein  
the request conforms to a request format defined in a first language, and  
at least one device of a plurality of devices is configured to provide ~~provides~~ the  
service;  
identifying instructions to identify one device of the at least one device to provide the service;  
and  
converting instructions to convert the request to a second request in a second language, wherein

**the second request conforms to a second language, and**  
**the one device is configured to provide the service in response to receiving the**  
**second request.**

**~~the second language is used for communication with the one device.~~**

17. **(Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 16 further comprising:  
directing instructions to direct the second request to the one device.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The computer-readable medium of claim 17 wherein  
the request format comprises

at least one instruction, and

data to be used when performing the at least one instruction, ~~and~~

**~~the second request conforms to the request format.~~**

19. **(Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 18 further comprising:  
first including instructions to include an optional variable in the at least one instruction of the  
second request, and  
second including instructions to include a value of the optional variable in the data of the second  
request, wherein  
the optional variable and the value specify use of a specific feature of a specific device of  
the plurality of devices.

20. **(Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 17 further comprising:  
sending instructions for sending a response to the request.

21. **(Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 20 wherein  
the response conforms to a response format defined in the first language.

22. **(Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 21 wherein  
the response format comprises

at least one instruction; and

data to be used when performing the at least one instruction.

23. **(Original)** A computer system comprising:  
 a processor for executing instructions; and  
 a memory for storing the instructions, wherein  
     the memory is coupled to the processor, and  
     the instructions comprise:  
         obtaining instructions to obtain a request to provide a service, wherein  
             the request conforms to a request format defined in a first language, and  
             at least one device of a plurality of devices provides the service;  
         identifying instructions to identify one device of the at least one device to provide  
             the service; and  
         converting instructions to convert the request to a second request in a second  
             language, wherein  
             the second request conforms to a second language, and  
             the one device is configured to provide the service in response to  
             receiving the second request.

~~the second language is used for communication with the one device.~~

24. **(Original)** The computer system of claim 23 wherein the instructions further  
 comprise:  
 directing instructions to direct the second request to the one device.

25. **(Currently Amended)** The computer system of claim 24 wherein  
 the request format comprises  
     at least one instruction, and  
     data to be used when performing the at least one instruction, ~~and~~  
~~the second request conforms to the request format.~~

26. **(Original)** The computer system of claim 25 wherein the instructions further  
 comprise:  
 first including instructions to include an optional variable in the at least one instruction of the  
     second request, and

second including instructions to include a value of the optional variable in the data of the second request, wherein  
the optional variable and the value specify use of a specific feature of a specific device of the plurality of devices.

27. **(Original)** The computer system of claim 24 wherein the instructions further comprise:  
sending instructions for sending a response to the request.

28. **(Original)** The computer system of claim 27 wherein  
the response conforms to a response format defined in the first language.

29. **(Original)** The computer system of claim 28 wherein  
the response format comprises  
at least one instruction; and  
data to be used when performing the at least one instruction.

30. **(Currently Amended)** A system comprising:  
an obtaining module to obtain a request to provide a service, wherein  
the request conforms to a request format defined in a first language, and  
at least one device of a plurality of devices **is configured to provide** ~~provides~~ the  
service;  
an identifying module to identify one device of the at least one device to provide the service; and  
a converting module to convert the request to a second request in a second language, wherein  
**the second request conforms to a second language, and**  
**the one device is configured to provide the service in response to receiving the**  
**second request.**  
~~the second language is used for communication with the one device.~~

31. **(Original)** The system of claim 30 further comprising:  
a directing module to direct the second request to the one device.

32. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 31 wherein  
the request format comprises

at least one instruction, and  
 data to be used when performing the at least one instruction, ~~and~~  
~~the second request conforms to the request format.~~

33. **(Original)** The system of claim 32 further comprising:  
 a first including module to include an optional variable in the at least one instruction of the  
 second request, and  
 a second including module to include a value of the optional variable in the data of the second  
 request, wherein  
 the optional variable and the value specify use of a specific feature of a specific device of  
 the plurality of devices.

34. **(Original)** The system of claim 31 further comprising:  
 a sending module for sending a response to the request.

35. **(Original)** The system of claim 34 wherein  
 the response conforms to a response format defined in the first language.

36. **(Original)** The system of claim 35 wherein  
 the response format comprises  
 at least one instruction; and  
 data to be used when performing the at least one instruction.

37. **(Currently Amended)** An application programming interface comprising:  
 a request definition for a first command to provide a request for a service, wherein  
 the request conforms to a request format defined in a first language,  
 the request format is specified in the request definition,  
 at least one device of a plurality of devices is configured to provide ~~provides~~ the  
 service,  
 one device of the at least one device is identified to provide the service in response to the  
 first command,  
 the request is converted to a second request, ~~request in a second language, and~~  
the second request conforms to a second language, and

**the one device is configured to provide the service in response to receiving the second request.**

**~~the second language is used for communication with the one device.~~**

38. **(Original)** The application programming interface of claim 37 further comprising:  
a response definition for a response format in which a response to the request is provided.

39. **(Original)** The application programming interface of claim 37 further comprising:  
an initialization definition for a second command to initialize prior to providing the request for the service.